

## Weatherization Program Notice 93-14

Effective Date - November 24, 1993

**SUBJECT:** 40 PERCENT WAIVER PROVISIONS FOR MULTI-FAMILY AND MOBILE HOME UNITS

**PURPOSE:** This program notice provides guidance on multi-family and mobile home units weatherized by States which adopt the approved 4.0 version of NEAT or other similar approved energy audits and receive a waiver of the 40 percent requirement from DOE. These audits presently address only single family units.

**SCOPE:** The provisions of this guidance apply to all grantees applying for financial assistance under the Department of Energy (DOE) Weatherization Assistance Program (Weatherization).

**BACKGROUND:** Title IV, Energy Conservation and Production Act as amended authorizes the Department of Energy to administer the Low-Income Weatherization Assistance Program. The final rule permits States to submit to DOE an energy audit for consideration as a waiver audit. A DOE-approved waiver audit will exempt the State from the 40 percent average materials requirement. A waiver audit may be an existing State audit, the National Energy Audit (NEAT), or a newly developed audit. All energy audits submitted for review as a waiver audit must meet the requirements of Section 440.21.

**PROCEDURES:** The procedures contained in this document are designed to be used in conjunction with Weatherization Program Notice 93-1, Program Year 1993 Weatherization Grant Guidance (and/or WPN 94-1, Program Year 1994 Weatherization Grant Guidance, when issued), in developing or amending the annual grant application.

**POLICY:** Those States which receive a waiver of the 40 percent requirement as a result of adopting an approved waiver audit, will have this waiver extended to cover both multi-family and mobile homes for an interim period until approved audits are available for these type units. Multi-family is defined as more than four units. This extension will be granted provided either mobile homes and/or multi-family units do not represent a "significant portion" of the total units weatherized in that particular State. A "significant portion" is defined as more than one-third of the total units weatherized in a State

States that have a "significant portion" of their completions in either mobile homes and/or multi-family units are not eligible for the waiver extension at this time, but could receive a waiver for these units if they adopt an approved audit which addresses these types of units when they become available.

States which receive an interim waiver for mobile home units will be required to adopt the DOE developed mobile home audit when that audit becomes available, or adopt an approved alternate mobile home audit that meets the waiver requirements of '440.21 of the final rule. The scheduled completion for the DOE mobile home audit is July 1994.

States in which multi-family units represent a "significant portion" of the total units weatherized in a State present a different problem. DOE has decided that it would not be prudent from either a practical or cost perspective to attempt to develop a national multi-family audit for use by the States. Because of the many variables associated with the development of an energy audit which could meet the myriad of multi-family types across the country, DOE will continue to encourage States to develop multi-family energy audits on their own. However, certain areas of a State, for example, urban areas containing significant numbers of multi-family units to be weatherized, must adopt an audit which addresses multi-family units or those units must comply with the 40 percent requirement. We expect several States to submit multi-family audits for approval. We will make these audits available to all States once approved so they can be customized for use by other States.

DOE anticipates that both alternative mobile home and multifamily audits which will meet the waiver requirements will be available in Program Year 1994. At that time, States that are under a waiver audit which includes a waiver covered in this guidance will be required to begin incorporating these new audits into their weatherization programs. It is DOE's goal that all States affected by this action will have integrated their programs with the necessary audits to cover the three major types of dwelling units. For states which have an approved waiver audit in place, the effective date of this guidance for those individual states will correspond to the date their waiver audit was approved.

Jeanne Van Vlandren, Director  
Weatherization Assistance Programs Division  
Conservation and Renewable Energy